

## 03050203-060

(North Fork Edisto River)

### General Description

Watershed 03050203-060 is located in Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties and consists primarily of the **North Fork Edisto River** and its tributaries from Bull Swamp Creek to Caw Caw Swamp. The watershed occupies 53,222 acres of the Upper Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Dothan-Fuquay-Noboco-Johnston series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.15 and the slope of the terrain averages 3%, with a range of 0-6%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 48.8% forested land, 29.5% agricultural land, 12.9% forested wetland (swamp), 6.1% barren land, 1.3% urban land, 1.1% water, and 0.3% nonforested wetland (marsh).

This section of the North Fork Edisto River incorporates a total of 59.3 stream miles, all classified FW. Tributaries that drain into the river include: Long Branch, Double Branch, Great Branch (Grape Branch, Moss Pond), Limestone Creek (Little Limestone Creek), Mill Branch, and Fourmile Creek. There are numerous recreational ponds in this watershed. There are a total of 59.9 stream miles and 238.4 acres of lake waters in this watershed, all classified FW. As a reach of the North Fork Edisto River, this watershed accepts the drainage of all streams entering the river upstream.

### Surface Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
E-099	P/INT	FW	NORTH FORK EDISTO RIVER AT S-38-74, NW ORANGEBURG

**North Fork Edisto River (E-099)** – Aquatic life uses are fully supported. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen concentrations. Although pH excursions were noted, they were typical of values seen in such systems and considered natural, not standards violations. Significant increasing trends in dissolved oxygen concentration and decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand suggest improving conditions for these parameters. Recreational uses are partially supported due to fecal coliform bacteria excursions, compounded by a significant increasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria concentration.

*A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes portions of streams within this watershed (see advisory p.38).*

### NPDES Program

There are currently no NPDES dischargers in this watershed.

### Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains a portion of the Town of Edisto. The existing infrastructure of U.S. 178 out of Orangeburg may encourage some growth.